

clearly wonder how we're going to make this work when, on the flip side, we're not necessarily taking away those positions from the Department of Social Services. We're going to transfer employees, but do they still have the ability to employ individuals in those capacities? I don't know and nobody has answered that question. And what else is involved here in terms of the additional costs besides the transfer of employees in two separate years? Those kind of questions have to be addressed before I could vote for this proposal or even come close to voting for it. And there really hasn't been a good discussion of this area, and that's the purpose for the amendment, is to find out where are we going with this amendment. It was dropped on our desks this morning, it's a floor amendment, it's a gut of a bill that came out of committee. And there was nothing in the green copy of the bill that dealt with transferring employees from a state agency to a state board. There have been no good responses to the issue of, where is the dollar...where are the dollars going from or to? Are we talking about ten additional positions that run ad infinitum, until somebody decides to stop it? Do they only last during the transition period that's listed down in subsection (2) of Section 1? How is this system going to function? And are there additional costs that are associated with it? And now maybe the folks don't care to discuss that, but it is a...it's a serious policy issue, and you can't just argue that somehow it's a fight between two entities. It may very well be that at its base, but the fact of the matter is we have to deal with the particulars surrounding it. And the particulars are, how much, who, anything additional? Are we going to have a fiscal note that we get to examine and look at this proposal as it relates to not only the employees we're talking about transferring, but what happens on the DSS side? What about the 26 new boards, how are they going to be addressed with...are these people going to function as specialists? Is that part of what their job duties are going to entail? Those kinds of things need to be answered, they need to be addressed. And I hope there's an adequate answer to some of those questions. With that, Mr. President, I offer the amendment to the first portion of Senator Avery's amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Hall. We still have a lengthy list of lights on. I will go down that list. The matter before the body is now the Hall amendment to the first portion of the Avery amendment. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, Mr. President, members of the body, I